

REPORT OF THE
Leader/Cabinet
PART II

1. THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19 CRISIS

- 1.1 At its meeting of 15 May 2020 Cabinet received a formal update on the County Council's responses so far to the Covid-19 pandemic and crisis. Cabinet noted the contents of the report as a summary of the exceptional events and responses. Approval was given to the immediate emphasis on the County Council's recovery work, on behalf of the County Council and the local Hampshire economy, notwithstanding the long-lasting nature of the crisis. Cabinet also acknowledged the continuing extraordinary and at times heroic efforts of the staff of the County Council as the crisis has progressed.
- 1.2 At its meeting of 14 July 2020 (following publication of this report) Cabinet will receive a further update on the County Council's responses to the crisis, setting out progress and developments across the County Council. Cabinet is asked to note in particular the additional developing initiatives that have been introduced since the previous report including the support to the wider care home sector, the preparations for increasing access to schools, and the beginning of outbreak recovery planning.

2. HAMPSHIRE LOCAL OUTBREAK CONTROL PLAN AND LOCAL OUTBREAK ENGAGEMENT BOARD

- 2.1 At its meeting of 14 July 2020 (following publication of this report) Cabinet will receive a report seeking endorsement for the steps taken by the County Council to put in place a Local Outbreak Control Plan for Hampshire.
- 2.2 The establishment of, and appointment to, a Local Outbreak Engagement Board, in line with new Government guidance and as a sub-committee of Cabinet chaired by the Leader of the County Council, is recommended. The Board will provide political oversight of the local delivery of the Test and Trace Service, lead the engagement with local communities and be the public face of the County Council's response in the event of any local outbreaks of Covid-19.
- 2.3 The establishment of a Hampshire Covid-19 Health Protection Board chaired by the Director of Public Health is recommended, also in line with new Government guidance, to manage the Covid-19 pandemic in Hampshire, particularly with regard to identifying and dealing with future outbreaks of the disease. Furthermore it is recommended that the Director of Public Health is delegated authority to spend funding allocated to the County Council in accordance with the Local Authority Covid-19 Test and Trace Service Support Grant Determination, and the County Council's existing financial regulations,

the Constitution and departmental scheme of delegation, including consultation with the Chief Executive where appropriate.

- 2.4 It is recommended that Cabinet approves the change of name from the existing Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee on Economic Development to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Economic Growth and Recovery to better reflect the parallel challenges and responsibilities of economic recovery that face the county and the County Council further to this crisis.
- 2.5 When introducing this Part II report, the Leader will confirm to the County Council the resolutions made by Cabinet on 14 July.

3. Regulation 11 (Key Decisions)

- 3.1 Regulation 11 (special urgency) allows for a key decision to be made if it is impracticable for notice of the intention to take a key decision under Regulation 9 to be given 28 clear days in advance of the taking of the decision. This also allows for a Key Decision to be taken where it is impractical for public notice at least five working days before the decision is taken to be given in accordance with Regulation 10. Regulation 11 sets out the actions required to be taken in those circumstances which include gaining the consent of the Chairman of the relevant Select Committee or in their absence, of the Chairman of the County Council. Details of Key Decisions taken under Regulation 11 must be presented to the County Council.
- 3.2 On 4 June 2020, the Director of Corporate Resources took a Key Decision on the purchase of IT equipment to enable better and safer home working. It was impracticable to give the required 28 days notice of the Director's intention to take this Key Decision as immediate implementation of the proposed decision to purchase was necessary in order to secure the procurement option that was negotiated. In accordance with Regulation 11, agreement was obtained from the Chairman of the County Council, that the Key Decision was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred.

Further details can be found at the links below:

- [Cabinet - 15 May 2020](#)
- [Cabinet - 14 July 2020](#)

COUNCILLOR KEITH MANS
Leader and Chairman of Cabinet